

RECOGNIZING KAPPA SIGMA UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS CHAPTER

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to mark 132 years of Kappa Sigma fraternity on the campus of the University of Arkansas and 100 years calling 711 W. Dickson Street its home. I join with so many other former and current members of the storied Xi Chapter in celebrating its tremendous legacy of brotherhood, academic achievement, and service.

The Kappa Sigma Xi Chapter was established in 1890 and is the largest fraternity on campus. The chapter is also the largest in the country, with over 4,000 initiates all-time and 335 undergraduates currently. It features prominent alumni, including notable figures such as Jerry Jones and former public servants who have served their communities, the State of Arkansas, and our country.

I am fortunate to be among several Kappa Sigma brothers to represent the people of Arkansas in the U.S. Congress. It is an honor to follow in the footsteps of William S. Goodwin of Warren, John McClellan from Sheridan, William Alexander from Osceola, and Ed Bethune of Little Rock, as well as Samuel B. Hill from Franklin who went on to serve the people of Washington State. Our time in the Xi Chapter undoubtedly shaped our desire to serve as leaders and give back through public service.

Being part of this organization is also a family affair, as my great uncle and cousin were members of Kappa Sigma's Xi Chapter. I know families throughout Arkansas have similar stories, which speaks to the broad and generational impact it continues to have in the natural State.

As former Senator and Republican Presidential nominee Bob Dole once expressed, being involved with Kappa Sigma offers a great deal of learning experience and the opportunity to make lifelong friends.

I am pleased and honored to help celebrate this milestone with other Kappa Sigma brothers and the city of Fayetteville. Reflecting on the history and tradition of this special brotherhood is just one way to carry on its mission.

Along with the University of Arkansas Greek Life community, and specifically to the Xi Chapter of Kappa Sigma, we applaud the longevity and life-changing work the fraternity continues to demonstrate.

Congratulations, again, to all those associated with this institution and who are connected through the bond it has established for well over a century.●

TRIBUTE TO DAN AND SANDI DAVIS

• Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, today I honor and pay tribute to Dan and Sandi Davis. The Davis' have selflessly dedicated more than 40 years of their

life to ministry through the United Pentecostal Church. In October of 2022, the Davis' celebrate 20 years of pastoral stewardship at First Pentecostal Church in Baton Rouge, LA.

Dan and Sandi met while attending college at Jackson College of Ministries, in Jackson, MS, and married in 1977. Pastor Davis became a licensed minister by the United Pentecostal Church International in 1976 and served in a number of ministerial positions at churches in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Michigan.

In 1989, the Davis' moved their family to Jena, LA, to lead the Shady Grove United Pentecostal Church. In 2002, after 13 years at Shady Grove, Dan and Sandi moved to Baton Rouge to begin their ministry at First Pentecostal Church of Baton Rouge. There, they have since faithfully served the congregation of First Pentecostal Church and the Baton Rouge community.

I met Dan when I was running for my first political office. He didn't know me from Adam. But from the get-go he was encouraging me, as he encourages everyone. I met Sandi through Dan and through them met others such as Bishop Tenney and his "Tennyisms." We have had great conversations regarding music and life. They regularly send notes, text messages, and messages through others to pick up my spirits. They do this for me; they do it for everyone. It is the ministry they have had for 40 years.

Joining the First Pentecostal celebrating these 40 years of ministry are Dan and Sandi's two daughters, Mandi Davis Hartzell and Heather Davis Dean; two sons-in-law, Ryan Hartzell and Chantry Dean; and three grandchildren; Ava Dean, Aidan Hartzell, and Zane Hartzell.

It is truly an honor and a privilege to commemorate the Davis' 20 years of ministry at First Pentecostal Church in Baton Rouge. I am blessed to have them as friends.●

TRIBUTE TO STEVEN FIORE

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize Steven Fiore of Atkinson as October's Granite Stater of the Month. This Halloween, 17-year-old Steven set up an elaborate haunted house to raise money for the Alzheimer's Association in honor of his late grandmother.

A Halloween enthusiast from a young age, Steven has collected various Halloween props, from fog machines to animated creatures, over the years. His grandmother, who he was close with, was one of the main contributors to the collection and would gift him props for Christmas.

After Steven's grandmother passed away from Alzheimer's in 2021, he decided to honor her memory by bringing his passion project to life. Utilizing his props and decorations, Steven set up a hair-raising haunted house for the weekends of October 21 and 28, with proceeds going to the Alzheimer's Association.

I especially admire Steven's creativity and drive in setting up a haunted house that has also brought together the Atkinson community and am glad that more guests will experience the thrills of the haunted house. By taking a difficult situation—experiencing the loss of his grandmother—and turning it into a positive force for helping others, by raising money for the Alzheimer's Association, Steven exemplifies the Granite State spirit, and I am proud to recognize his efforts.●

TRIBUTE TO DIANE PORTNOY

• Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, today I recognize Ms. Diane Portnoy, a renowned educator, advocate, author, and CEO and founder of the Immigrant Learning Center in Malden, MA. As the Immigrant Learning Center celebrates its 30th anniversary, I am honored to acknowledge Ms. Portnoy's extraordinary work.

As the founder and CEO of the Immigrant Learning Center, a nonprofit organization located in Malden, MA, Ms. Portnoy has spent the last three decades supporting the educational goals of thousands of immigrants from more than 122 countries. Under Ms. Portnoy's leadership, the organization has worked to draw attention to the many plights that immigrants and refugees face and has helped to amplify their voices.

Ms. Portnoy's own personal experience as an immigrant inspired her to start the Immigrant Learning Center. She came to the United States as the daughter of Polish Holocaust survivors and witnessed firsthand the many challenges immigrant families face when adjusting to life in the United States.

She began her career in education, receiving her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Boston University, followed by a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from Cornell University. Since the founding of the Immigrant Learning Center, local and national groups have recognized Ms. Portnoy as both a leader and advocate for the many immigrants in Massachusetts. Her dedication, passion, and endless resolve has helped shape the Immigrant Learning Center into an organization that provides immigrants and refugees with scholastic resources, ensures that adults have access to free English language classes, disseminates educational information about immigration, and conducts essential research on the contributions of immigrants to the U.S. economy.

I am honored to take this opportunity to recognize Ms. Portnoy for her tremendous achievements. She has touched many lives, and her work at the Immigrant Learning Center will continue to have a lasting impact on individuals across Massachusetts and beyond. So, on this 30th anniversary of the Immigrant Learning Center, we thank her for her service to her community, the Commonwealth, and the country.●

TRIBUTE TO JOHN R. CYR

• Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. John R. Cyr, the inaugural recipient of the NCRPC's Lifetime Public Service Award.

The North Central Regional Planning Commission—NCRPC—was formed in 1972 following the establishment of planning and development districts through executive order of the Governor of Kansas. The NCRPC serves 12 rural counties in Kansas, with the mission of advancing rural Kansas through comprehensive planning and development services. In 1980, the U.S. Economic Development Administration designated the NCRPC as an Economic Development District—EDD—which established the commission as the regional leader in economic and community development.

In 2022, the NCRPC established its Lifetime Public Service Award, to be presented to John R. Cyr on November 10, 2022. Mr. Cyr has not only been instrumental in the founding and growth of the NCRPC, but has been a leader in regional planning, economic development, and rural community revitalization. Henceforth, this award will be presented annually to distinguished rural central Kansans who most exemplify the lifetime commitment to strengthening our rural communities.

The establishment of this prestigious award, and the recognition of Mr. Cyr as its inaugural recipient will serve not just as an ongoing tribute to those that have given so much to better their communities but also as an inspiration to people of all ages to public service and strengthening our rural communities.

I now ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. John R. Cyr for a lifetime of public service, as well as honoring his work to advance rural communities in Kansas.●

TRIBUTE TO JULIE SCOTT

• Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and recognize Ms. Julie Scott of Sedgwick, KS.

Julie is one of nine principals receiving the Terrel H. Bell Award for Outstanding School Leadership for 2022. She is the principal of R.L. Wright Elementary School and is to be honored during the National Blue Ribbon Schools Awards Ceremony on Thursday, November 3, 2022.

During her 4 years as principal of R.L. Wright, Ms. Scott has made it her mission to make the school a safe learning environment for all students, where everyone feels a sense of community. Through her outstanding leadership, the school has launched several programs to help achieve these goals.

To promote early learning, she created the school's full-day Cardinal Kids Pre-K Program. Ms. Scott also launched Cardinal Connect, an after-school program for students, and Cardinal Boost, a tutoring program focus-

ing on improving students' reading and math skills. Julie values the opinions of her students and works to incorporate them into bettering the school. To help accomplish this, she introduced the principal advisory team, which brings fourth, fifth, and sixth graders together to provide their input on school improvements.

Ms. Scott also led the creation of the school's family activity building. This program encourages a strong community by bringing students from different grade levels together for monthly bonding activities. Each group is led by an R.L. Wright faculty member, providing students with a consistent adult contact throughout their time in elementary school. Julie also introduced a "community build day" when the school received new playground equipment. Members of the Sedgwick community came together to help with the installation of the equipment.

She also strives to make the best environment possible for others at the school. Julie introduced R.L. Wright's Morning Community, where the entire school comes together to say the Pledge of Allegiance and listen to daily announcements. Julie formed collaborative teams with the introduction of Professional Learning Community times. These collaborations are designed to build team spirit and connection with the community. She launched a learning community for paraprofessionals, providing them with additional training and support in monthly meetings.

Julie's passion for her students and the additions she's brought to R.L. Wright are a shining example for educators everywhere. She is more than deserving of this award. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the wonderful impact Ms. Julie Scott has had on the Sedgwick community and to honor her for her dedication to serving the students of R.L. Wright Elementary School.●

RECOGNIZING THE 4-H ALL-STAR MEAT JUDGING TEAM

• Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and recognize the Kansas 4-H all-star meat judging team.

The Kansas 4-H all-star team won the national championship at the 2022 4-H meat judging contest championship. The exceptional work ethic and dedication of the Kansas 4-H all-star team led to the first ever national title for a Kansas team since the contest started in 1970.

To be selected for the all-star team, students must have excellent evaluation, as well as strong decision-making skills and outstanding oral communication. This team of Kansans have dedicated significant amounts of time to studying and preparing for the championship, working with their coaches and studying independently leading up to the contest.

The team placed first in several categories, including retail cut judging,

retail cut identification, oral reasons, and overall judging. They also placed second in pork judging and beef judging. Their efforts are a great illustration of the dedication and hard work seen across the Kansas agriculture community.

A strong agricultural industry is not only important to the State of Kansas, but also to our country. That is why it is so encouraging to see young people throughout Kansas that are so committed to advancing the agricultural industry and proudly representing the next generation of Kansas farmers.

I now ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Kansas 4-H all-star meat judging team for their exceptional work and their efforts in bringing the first meat judging national title to the great State of Kansas.●

REMEMBERING DIDAR SINGH BAINS

• Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to recognize Didar Singh Bains, a community leader in California, who passed away on September 13, 2022, at the age of 84.

Didar embodied the pioneer spirit of the Golden State. He left a small village in his native Punjab, India, for America with almost no money to his name. Didar found agricultural work in the Imperial Valley before eventually working his way to Yuba City in the northern part of the State.

Through hard work he tapped into California's fertile soils and rich agricultural bounty to build a farming empire that spanned California, Washington, and British Columbia. His particular gift for cultivating peaches earned him the moniker of "Peach King."

But Didar was much more than a farmer; he was a philanthropist, a pillar of his community, and a beacon of hope for Sikh immigrants across the country who were often fleeing violence in search of a better life.

A man of great faith, Didar raised money to build a Sikh temple in Yuba City, and he became the youngest president of the Stockton Gurdwara Sikh temple in 1965. He also founded the World Sikh Organization in 1984, which has donated millions of dollars to philanthropic causes around the world. After Sikhs became targets of discrimination and violence following the September 11 terror attacks, he worked with community leaders to meet with President George W. Bush in hopes of educating the Nation on the Sikh community.

The nearly 100,000 Sikh Americans who travel from across the country each year to Yuba City's annual Nagar Kirtan festival have Didar Singh Bains to thank. Didar was a champion for Yuba City and the surrounding region. His legacy is felt to this day by the businesses that now line the largely rural area. It can be seen in the political gains for Sikh Americans, exemplified by his nephew winning mayoral office in 2009 and becoming the first Sikh